



# The Catholic Parishes of Saint Francis of Assisi, Nailsea & Saint Joseph, Portishead



**St Francis of Assisi Church**  
Ash Hayes Road  
Nailsea BS48 2LP  
01275 851530

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2022**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

**St Joseph's Church**  
West Hill  
Portishead BS20 6LN  
01275 842912

<b>Parish Priest:</b>	Father Richard Elson	<a href="mailto:richard.elson@cliftondiocese.com">richard.elson@cliftondiocese.com</a>	01275 851530
<b>Deacons:</b>	Rev Didier Delaplace	<a href="mailto:didier.delaplace@cliftondiocese.com">didier.delaplace@cliftondiocese.com</a>	07895 885315
	Rev Ivan Reynolds	<a href="mailto:ivan.reynolds@cliftondiocese.com">ivan.reynolds@cliftondiocese.com</a>	01275 858639
<b>Children, Youth and Families Worker:</b>	Anne-Marie McIntosh	<a href="mailto:cyfm.stjosephandstfrancis@cliftondiocese.com">cyfm.stjosephandstfrancis@cliftondiocese.com</a>	07548 423438
<b>Parish Administrator:</b>	Elaine Shiel	<a href="mailto:stjosephandstfrancis@cliftondiocese.com">stjosephandstfrancis@cliftondiocese.com</a>	
<b>Office Hours:</b>	Nailsea	Mon & Thurs	9.30am – 1pm
	Portishead	Tues & Fri	10.30am – 1pm
<b>Parish website:</b>	<a href="http://www.josephfrancis.org">www.josephfrancis.org</a>		

## This Week's Mass Times

Sat 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	6pm	St Joseph	First Sunday of Advent	<i>People of the Parish</i>
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	9am	St Joseph		<i>Holy Souls</i>
	11am	St Francis		<i>Barbara Gray (RIP)</i>
	6pm	St Francis		<i>Gary Waterer (RIP) (1st Ann)</i>
Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov	9am	St Francis	Weekday of Advent	<i>Peter Zanetti (RIP)</i>
Tues 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>No Mass</b>			
Wed 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	7pm	St Francis	Feast of St Andrew	<i>Holy Souls</i>
Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	9.15am	St Francis	Memorial of St Alexander Briant	<i>Holy Souls</i>
Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	10am	St Joseph	Weekday of Advent	<i>Holy Souls</i>
Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	10am	St Joseph	Memorial of St Francis Xavier	<i>Holy Souls</i>
	6pm	St Joseph	Second Sunday of Advent	

### Confessions

Saturday	5.30-5.50pm	St Joseph
Sunday	5.30-5.50pm	St Francis
Wednesday	6.30-6.50pm	St Francis

### Today's Readings



### Adoration

Tuesday	2-3pm	St Francis
Wednesday	12noon-11pm	St Joseph
Thursday	8-9pm	St Francis

## THE WORD THIS WEEK

Advent opens with a great promise: 'In the days to come' – the hope of a people who need God. '...The master is coming' is also a promise, not a threat to breed fear, but to answer our cry. So, Advent begins, not with thoughts of the past, with the coming of the Lord we celebrate at Christmas, but with the future, and the promise that He is coming back. We are encouraged to stay awake, and treat every day as the day the Lord will come; we do not do this out of fear for a Master who beats his servants, but out of love of a Master who always treats us with mercy. Nevertheless, we must always be watchful, because we can grow sleepy and complacent, saying that we can leave this prayer or that confession or the other change in the way we live to tomorrow. Even as we look forward to the tomorrow of the Lord's coming, we must remember that it might be today!

## **BLESSING OF BAMBINELLI – 11<sup>th</sup> DEC**

This is a beautiful Advent Tradition - Bambinelli Sunday, Blessing the Christ Child - which has been celebrated in Rome for over thirty years and helps children and young people to prepare for Jesus. Each family will bring the Christ Child from its own crib or Nativity scene and the Pope blesses it during the noon Angelus that day. It is a wonderful way to bring family and parish together. Following that tradition, I encourage families to bring the baby Jesus from their own cribs to church on the Third Sunday of Advent and, at the end of Mass, I will bless the Bambinelli which have been brought to church. Everyone is welcome to take part – young and old alike. Fr Richard

## **SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND 3rd/4th DEC - POOR MISSIONS OF THE DIOCESE**

This fund enables the Bishop to offer small grants to some of the financially less fortunate parishes in our Diocese. This is one collection that reminds us of the support and encouragement we give to each other as a Diocesan family, and our responsibility to care for our wider family in the diocese.

## **OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

Starting this weekend (26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> Nov), we will be returning to taking the offertory collection during Mass at all Sunday Masses in both churches. Second collections will taken as retiring collections at the end of Mass. Online donations can still be made via the parish website, and standing orders will continue to be the most convenient way for many people to make their donations to the church. We appreciate whatever you are able to donate to the church, especially during these difficult times.

## **TRADCRAFT – ST JOSEPH'S**

A mini stall will return in the lobby after both Masses on this weekend **26/27 November** after a successful last weekend for the Traidcraft Stall. I have Christmas cards, chocolate, biscuits and gift items for sale. By supporting Traidcraft, you are helping farmers and artisans in poor parts of the world. Thank you.

## **CHRISTMAS RAFFLE – ST JOSEPH'S**

We will be holding a Christmas raffle again this year and we would be extremely grateful if parishioners could look at the list on the notice board and tick something that they feel able to donate toward a Christmas hamper. This will be our main prize as in past years. Thank you for your support.

## **ADVENT HOLY HOUR – 4<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

At the heart of the Advent Season is an invitation to spend time preparing for the birth of Jesus. You are warmly invited to spend an hour pondering the awesomeness of the Incarnation through the stillness of prayer, scripture and Adoration on **Sunday, 4th December at St Francis between 4:00 and 5:00 pm.** For further information please contact Deacon Ivan on 01275 858639.

## **THANK YOU! - UK AID TO UKRAINE APPEAL**

Thank you for all the generous donations of food and clothing left at St Francis Church for this appeal. All the items have been collected and will be given to people in need in Ukraine.

There is also some more information on the links below:

[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/colin-virtue?utm\\_term=mDRd5M9Ak](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/colin-virtue?utm_term=mDRd5M9Ak)

<https://www.facebook.com/100079919275476/posts/pfbid0vQeiDf4gqIs3FhZBApFoqpT23nzFW1HRNzPO8nW6UBweryuREoWSAgcqbEUBnyQ6l/>

## **MASS FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND**

On Saturday 17 December at 3pm we will be having a Mass at St Francis Church for the sick and housebound of our parish during which Fr Richard will be offering the Sacrament of the Sick. Please contact Fr Richard in advance if you wish to receive this Sacrament. Please mark this date in your diary and draw it to the attention of those you may know who are no longer able to come to Mass regularly and may not receive a newsletter. If they have family or friends who could bring them that would be ideal but we will be organising transport for everyone else. There will be tea and cakes in the hall afterwards. Further details will be given later where people can volunteer with various tasks to help this run smoothly. There will be a role for everyone so please do keep the date free.

## **SEAFARERS CHRISTMAS BOXES – ST JOSEPH'S**

We are asking you to make up boxes or bags of goodies for our Port of Bristol Seafarers. Boxes can be left in the lobby of St Joseph's Church (Please write "seafarers" on the boxes to avoid mixing them with other donations). Boxes left in the lobby will be collected on a regular basis. There is no "closing date"; because some ships do not celebrate Christmas; they celebrate Epiphany in January.

We collected many boxes last year; let's see if we can do even better this year! Many thanks!

## **HOLIDAY - ELAINE**

I will be away from the office from Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November returning on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

## **FAMILY ADVENT ACTIVITIES**

Children, young people and their families are all invited to our Advent Activity sessions. The first of these will be held at St Joseph's Portishead on **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November** after the 9.00am Mass until 12 noon and then at St Francis Nailsea on **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December** after the 11.00am Mass. The St Francis session will begin with a 'bring and share' lunch, for those who have been to the 11.00am Mass and will start at 1.00pm and finish at 3.00pm. There will be a variety of Advent activities and a short liturgy to finish. **All are welcome.** In order to help us plan the resources needed for this please add your name and number of children to the signup sheet in the foyer.

## **ADVENT SERVICE**

Our joint **Advent Service**, for both parishes, will be held at St Francis Church Nailsea on **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December** at **6.00pm** followed by refreshments in the hall. Thank you if you have already contacted me and offered to read. However, I am still looking for a few more willing parishioners to take part. Please catch me after Mass or contact me by phone or email. Thank you.

Anne-Marie

## **BAKE SALE-ST JOSEPH'S, 29<sup>TH</sup> NOV, 9am**

The year 6 children from St Joseph's school are holding a bake sale after the **9am Mass this Sunday**. They are fundraising for their leaver's funds, which will provide special items for them to carry as they leave the school. This normally includes a holding cross each and yearbook amongst other symbolic items. Please support them in their cause and enjoy their bakes. Thank you!

## **SEA FARERS BOXES - ST FRANCIS**

Please could completed boxes be returned to the church porch by Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November. If you haven't filled one yet & would like to there are a few empty ones in the porch with a list of suggested donations inside.

Thank you for your support

## **MISSIO RED BOXES - ST FRANCIS**

If anyone would like their Red Box emptied before the end of the year, will you please leave then in porch or with Fr Richard over the next 2 weeks. I will endeavour to have it back for the following week. Thank you so much for every penny you give. Martha

## **ADVENT LECTIO DIVINA AND CHRISTIAN MEDITATION**

For Advent, we pray the scriptures with Lectio Divina. We will use a Sunday reading of each week of Advent. You may be familiar with this or curious to know more.

The reading is read three times by different members of the group. Following the first reading we absorb the words and digest them into ourselves.

We hold a couple of minutes of silence then hear the reading again. After the second reading, group members are invited to say the words or phrases that have spoken to them/caught their attention. It doesn't matter if others have said these words before, as we go with the flow and see what God is saying to each of us through the scripture words. We have more silence. Then the words are read again and this is followed by how the words have affected anyone in the group.

All are welcome to join the group for one or all four weeks of Advent. Mondays at 8pm in the small meeting room. Any questions email [francescamagner@gmail.com](mailto:francescamagner@gmail.com)

## **A FRESH START (29th November 7-8pm)**

Clifton Diocese and Caritas Plymouth have jointly organised an online event to help people learn about prison ministry, and the experiences of people affected by imprisonment. Pact (Prison Advice and Care Trust) has just begun supporting a number of prisons in the South West, and CEO Andy Keen-Down will be speaking at our event. This is a great opportunity for parishioners to continue their synodal journey by listening and learning about a marginalised population in our society, and to discern if this may be a place the Lord is calling for more attention, prayer, and service. For more information, or to register, please send an email to [jason.Charewicz@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:jason.Charewicz@cliftondiocese.com)

## **ST JOHN OF GOD HOMES FOR UKRAINE PRESENTATION (1st December 6-7.30pm Clifton Cathedral)**

Though Russia's invasion of Ukraine began back in February, the need to aid refugees continues. St John of God's Homes For Ukraine project is seeking to find individuals who may be able to sponsor a Ukrainian refugee. Mariia Pashkova, the Project Manager for Homes for Ukraine, and Zhenya Siryk, Project Officer, will be presenting the Homes for Ukraine matching service, as well as the support offered to sponsors. All are welcome to attend and to learn about this important service. For more information, please email [jason.Charewicz@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:jason.Charewicz@cliftondiocese.com)

## **EVENTS TAKING PLACE IN PORTISHEAD**

### **ADVENT CAROL SERVICE - Sunday 27th November**

Once again you are invited to join with churches across the town to sing, listen and reflect as we enter this year's Advent season.

The service will be held at Portishead Methodist Church and will begin at 6.30pm. All are welcome.

### **9 CAROLS & COMEDIANS - Friday 16th December**

This festive fun-packed evening returns again! We have a fantastic line-up as well as singing some of our favourite Christmas carols. This event is ideal to invite friends and neighbours to.

Tickets are £10 each and can be bought from The Beacon Hub at Portishead Methodist Church, Nortec computers or online at <https://www.skiddle.com/.../9-Carols--Comedians/36219191/>

This promises to be one of the best nights this Christmas time!!!

For more information see the Posters displayed on the notice board in the lobby of St Joseph's Church.